

Appendix A: Shelby County Profile

Government

Shelby County was incorporated in 1819. Since the implementation of the Restructure Act in 1976, the County has operated under the Mayor-Commission form of government. The County is divided into five districts, with 13 elected representatives on the County Board of Commissioners. Other Elected Officials include the Sheriff, County Clerk, Court Clerks (5), Assessor, Register, and Trustee. All elected officials serve four year terms.

The County Seal



As with most counties in Tennessee, the Shelby County seal was adapted as a variation of the Tennessee state seal. The date shown is the date that Shelby County was established. The upper half of the seal features a tobacco plant, a plow, a sheaf of wheat, a cotton plant and an iris (state flower) as representations of "Agriculture." The lower half depicts a flatboat and sail with the word "Commerce".

Geographics

*1

Land Area.....	783 square miles
Elevation.....	331 feet
Average precipitation.....	54.65 inches
Average annual temperature.....	62.0
Average snowfall.....	5.1 inches
Freeze free period.....	230 days

Demographics

*2

Population of Shelby County:

2005.....	905,705
2000.....	898,265
1990.....	826,330

(16% of the population of Tennessee resides within Shelby County)

Municipalities within Shelby County:

Memphis.....	672,277
Arlington.....	3,534
Bartlett.....	43,263
Collierville.....	37,564
Germantown.....	37,480
Lakeland.....	7,388
Millington.....	10,306
Unincorporated area.....	97,223

Racial Mix:

Black.....	51.1%
White.....	43.6%
Asian.....	2.0%
Other.....	2.2%
Mixed.....	1.1%

Sex:

Male.....	47.7%
Female.....	52.3%

Age Characteristics:

Ages 5 to 17.....	21.2%
Ages 18 to 64.....	68.5%
Age 65 and over.....	10.3%
Median age.....	34.6 years